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CITY OF ELY COUNCIL  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM  
ON MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2015

**PRESENT;**

Cllr A Arnold Cllr I Lindsay Cllr C Phillips Cllr C Whelan Cllr A Whelan Cllr P Moakes Cllr S Pittock

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr E Every.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – *to receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary & other interests from Councillors, as set out in Standing Order 83b.*

There were no declarations received.

**3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015 & MATTERS ARISING**

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015, were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages ENV11 and 12 refer.

**Matters arising: - Page 11**, Item 3– Matters Arising. Ely Perspective need to know the exact location of the plaque in order to gain permission from ECDC. It was agreed that Cllr Lindsay would decide this on behalf of the Committee.

**Page 11**, Item 8 – After an inspection, the Estates Manager was able to repair the bin.

**Page 12**, Item 9 – Our insurers Zurich, have indicated that providing the Council are responsible for trees and take regular risk assessments and inspections, the Council would be covered on the liability cover. Quotes for this have been sourced and it was agreed that the option to survey, map and tag all trees and to carry out an inspection at the same time, would be preferential. This would cost £1400 plus VAT. Once the mapping had been done, subsequent surveys would be cheaper. It was agreed that this cost should be split between the Environment Committee and the Recreation and Cemetery Committee.

**4. BUDGET UPDATE AND BUDGET SETTING FOR 2016/2017**

Members noted the budget update, dated 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015. There were no significant variances. Much discussion took place concerning the requested budget for 2016/2017. And the following was agreed by the members.

Bus Shelters & Memorial Facilitation -	£2,000
Lighting – Energy/Maintenance -	£1,320
Street Furniture	£1,500
Ely in Bloom	£11,000
Trees & Green Spaces	£5,000
Contingency	£2,000

**5. BUSINESS PLAN**

Cllr Lindsay had prepared an action plan and requested that the members take this away to read. A discussion took place about the inspection of street furniture in the City centre. Members are mindful that Ely Perspective

carries out regular inspections and it was suggested that this Committee could work in partnership with Ely Perspective. Cllr Pittock, a member of Ely Perspective, has agreed to forward a copy of their last inspection. The next Business Plan meeting will take place after a presentation from ECDC's Chief Executive, on the current and future plans of ECDC and how they will impact on this Council.

## **6. ELY IN BLOOM**

Our hanging baskets provider, Simply Gardening of Ely, have requested that the borrowing of the Council's water bowser is extended to cover the winter months, if watering is required. This has insurance implications as the bowser will be insured by our contractor for third party cover only. The Committee agreed that if it is necessary for the plants to be watered, then the Council will allow this arrangement for the winter months. However, the contractor must be prepared to agree that they will be responsible for any damage incurred to the bowser.

Cllr Arnold reported that the Working Group would like to extend the floral displays to include:

For the Maltings

- 10 Hanging baskets
- 2 x planters and topiary shrub
- Summer and winter planting/maintenance

For Sessions House

- 2 x Portland stone lotus vase
- 2 x Portland stone plinth
- Summer and winter planting/maintenance
- Plants for under tree at Sessions House.

## **7. REQUEST FOR BUS SHELTER ON KING'S AVENUE**

A request has been received for a bus shelter to be installed on King's Avenue, from Cambridgeshire County Council on behalf of a local resident. Cllr Whelan informed the meeting that the Council cannot consider installing any kind of street furniture in this area, as the roads have not been adopted.

## **8. A.O.B.**

Cllr Pittock informed the meeting that Ely Perspective is planning to create an Arboretum Trail Leaflet, highlighting trees of interest in the area.

## **9. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting has been arranged 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 or earlier if required.